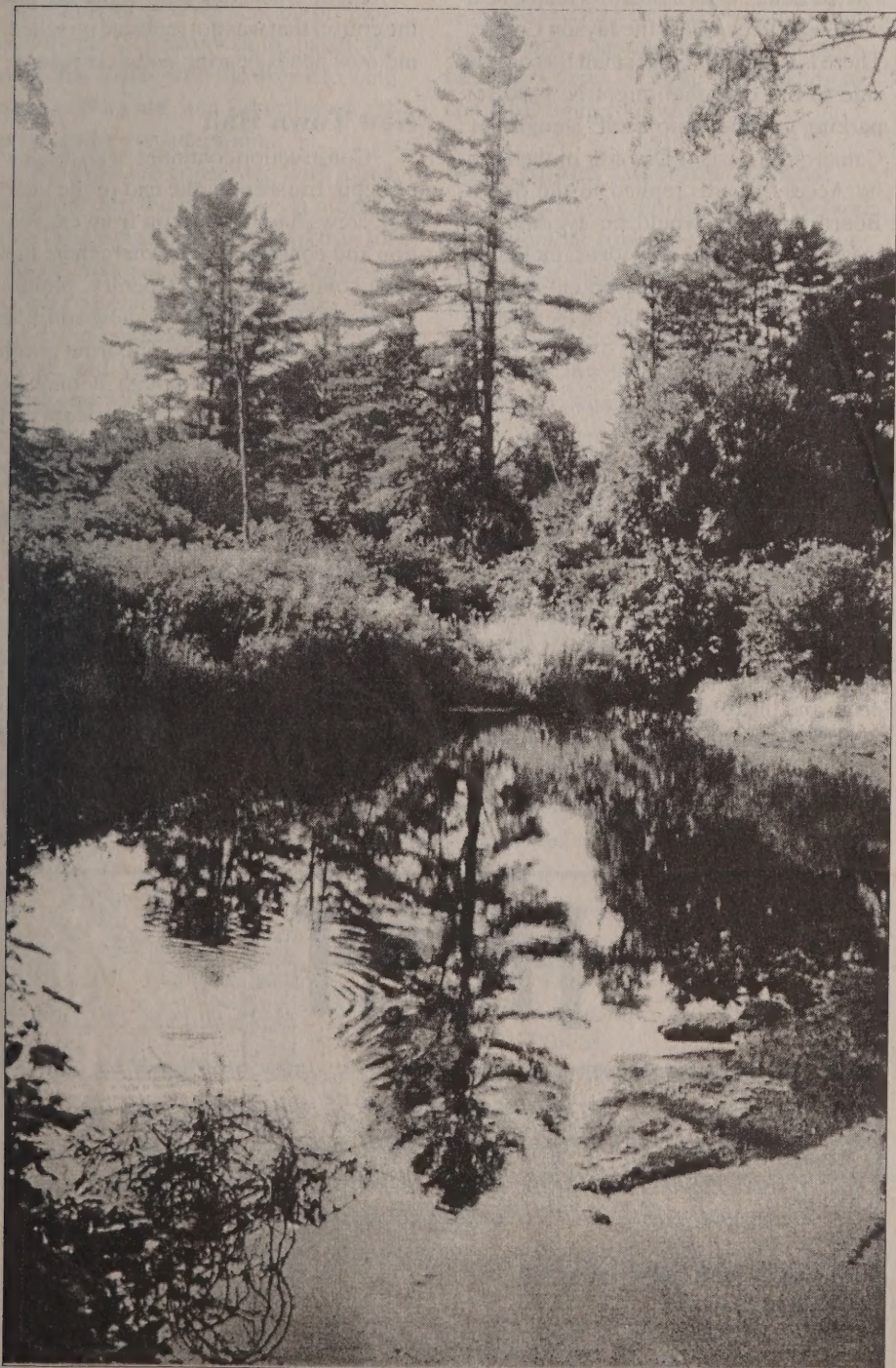




MONTEREY NEWS

November 2003
VOLUME XXXIII · Number 11



Autumn reflections along Diane's Trail, Gould Farm

The Town

October is a month of change; leaves are going or gone (and the geese likewise), the tide is out on Lake Garfield, summer cottages are shuttered and drained, and many friends have headed south. There are growing stacks of firewood and, as we climb into sweaters and coats and turn our faces toward the prospect of winter, we think about putting the snow shovel just by the back door, where it's handy for the inevitable. A first snowfall, which arrived just past mid-month, felt much too early, but it disappeared in a day or two and we returned to autumn.

The change of seasons gives rise to thoughts of the longer term: nothing is more certain than the presumption that there are changes that will inevitably have to be faced in the future. What will Monterey be like in 5, 10, 50 years? How much of that horizon is predictable, given the right data? What would we like that imagined town to be? How can we help to shape the direction of this very special place to meet those goals? And what should be considered along the way? Interest in developing a master planning initiative is picking up steam: the need is evident and the work is there—sizeable, and significant—but it needs leadership and organizing and cohesion. The Planning Board, under whose purview this kind of work ordinarily comes, seems loaded with its usual business: they meet twice a month now to hear cases, debate and reach decisions, and consider by-laws. How does one move beyond that to the larger picture so that we are proactively engaged in our own future? A strategy is needed, and it requires both clear and consistent communication among colleagues and with the Select Board, and

Glynis Oliver

perhaps a twenty-eight hour day—but we ignore the needed work at our children's peril.

It was a short month for the Select Board, who did not meet on the Columbus Day holiday. A few items of note:

The Boat Ramp

The question of finding a suitable location for public access to Lake Garfield remains unsettled. The Select Board spent part of a morning in Lee, meeting with Town Counsel Hugh Cowhig. Attorney Cowhig's opinion, as relayed by the Board, was that any of the properties the Select Board had looked at (south of the present town beach, north of the town beach, Kinne's Grove) were all possibilities for taking by eminent domain, which is to say he could see no legal obstacle. The Select Board agreed with Atty. Cowhig that to do so would be a political nightmare and not something they would look forward to doing. Mr. Cowhig pointed out that it is the state's obligation to put in the boat ramp, not the town's, and that Monterey has no obligation to satisfy the requirements posed by having a Great Pond in its midst. That would seem to make

financing and building a boat ramp a state rather than local problem.

Determining the best site, however, could certainly use local input. Rod Palmer, whose interest in seeing access for boats remains unabated, called the Public Access Board and told them he thought he had located a possible site. So, a new location may be added to the list: along the small inlet located off Hupi Road by Scott Road along what is called Phelps Lane on the assessor's maps, near what used to be called the Jayson Camps. There is a series of eight small lots on one side of the inlet that might be used for parking and the ramp itself. Douglas H. Cameron, Assistant Director of the Public Access Board, replied to the Select Board that they would be available to meet to discuss any new ideas, including this one, and to view any potential sites, and it is an invitation the Select Board will follow up on.

Police Report

Chief Gareth Backhaus reported that Officer Roger Arduini stopped a car clocked at a speed of 91 m.p.h. on Route 23. The month has otherwise been filled with downed tree limbs and electrical wires due to storms, false reports from house alarm systems, an arrest of an out-of-towner for driving under the influence, and the rendering of various forms of assistance to the public. Little news is good news! Discussion concerning ATVs revealed that dirt bikes are allowed to

cross public roads, going directly from one side to the other, but may not travel down them, and must be registered to be legal anywhere. Helmets are, of course, also required under all circumstances when operating an ATV or dirt bike, and permission must be gained to travel across private land. Please call Chief Backhaus if you experience problems with ATVs or dirt bikes on your land or on the highways and back roads.

Chief Backhaus also reported that the cruiser that was not replaced on schedule now needs bearing and axle repairs.

New Town Hall

Construction continues, with the goal of being finished by the end of the year. The crews have moved on from excavation and concrete work, where there had been some issues, to carpentry, plumbing, and electrical, and the new addition has rapidly taken shape. The front porch is nearly finished, although it may be expected that many will have to learn that what used to be the front door of the Grange is now an emergency exit only. Director of Operations Maynard Forbes and architect David Bixby continue to oversee the project.

Roads and Equipment

The Select Board also paid a visit to the Town Shed and the crew who work to keep Monterey's roads safe and in good repair. Meeting with staff members Richard Crittenden, Peter LePrevost, Lyman

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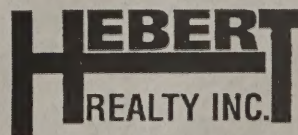
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Thomson, Chief of Police Gareth Backhaus, and Director of Operations Maynard Forbes, the Board was complimentary about the quality of the roads and the good safety record upheld by the police. They commented that road maintenance tends to be, unfortunately, something one hears about only when there are complaints, and wanted to both thank the crew for their good efforts and make themselves available to those responsible for our roads, understanding that issues of sand and salt, new regulations promulgated by the Commonwealth, balancing new technologies with the desire to keep things as they are, and other issues are always under consideration.

The crew are concerned with aging equipment and the cost to keep it going rather than replacing it. The Oshkosh, for example, was not replaced on schedule and has required a new fuel tank, tires, front-end tie rods and bushings, a transfer case, and a rebuilt sander. While replacing equipment is not cheap, trying to keep aging equipment going continues to impact the budget.

Farm Viability Program

Intended to improve the bottom line and the environment, the Farm Viability Program is designed by the Massachusetts Department of Food and Agriculture to help farmers plan development. A team of experts will assess current farm

operations and suggest ways to increase income through improved management, diversification, direct marketing, etc., as well as make recommendations for pollution prevention and resource conservation. Funding for implementing the recommendations may be available in return for an agricultural use covenant.

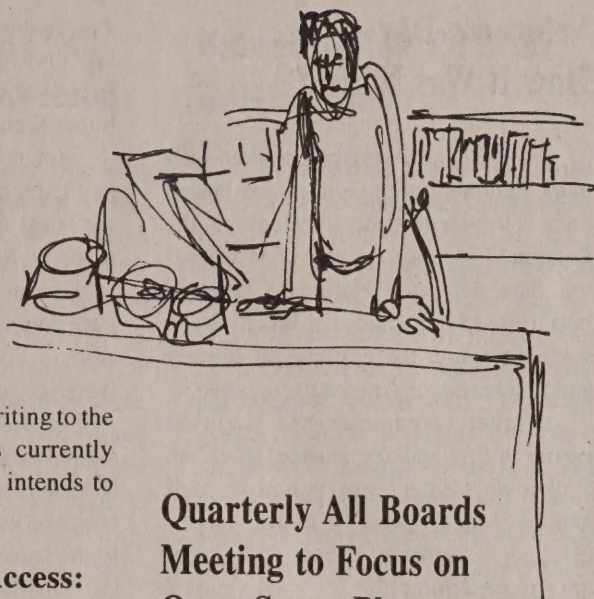
Applications may be had by writing to the Department; anyone who is currently farming 5 acres or more and intends to continue doing so is eligible.

High Speed Internet Access:

Bill Johnson reported to the Select Board that he continues to research the options for high speed Internet access. There are at least 30 homes and businesses in Monterey that have expressed interest in moving up from a dial-up connection. Again, we are facing the future as it rushes toward us, and a citizen has volunteered to lead by doing the groundwork necessary to a good decision. Thanks, Bill!

Access to the lake, safety and roads, farms and open space, and the Internet: what will Monterey be like in 5, 10, 50 years? We can all help decide.

— K. Wasiuk



Quarterly All Boards Meeting to Focus on Open Space Plan

The Monterey Select Board has scheduled the quarterly meeting for all town boards for Monday, November 17, at 6:30 p.m. The meeting will focus on the draft of the Open Spaces Plan, with comments and input encouraged. The general public, as well as members of all town boards, are encouraged to attend and participate. Information packets will be mailed beforehand to all boards and will also be available at the Town Offices. The meeting date and place were tentative at press time, so please call the Town Offices to confirm, 528-1443.



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Veteran's Day— How It Was Named

In 1921, an American soldier—his name “known but to God”—was buried on a Virginia hillside overlooking the Potomac River and the city of Washington. The Arlington National Cemetery burial site of this unknown World War I soldier became the epitome of dignity and reverence for America's veterans.

Similar ceremonies had occurred earlier in England and France, where an “unknown soldier” was buried in each nation's highest place of honor (in England, Westminster Abbey; in France, the Arc de Triomphe).

These memorial gestures all took place on November 11, giving universal recognition to the celebrated ending of World War I hostilities at 11 a.m., November 11, 1918 (the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month). The day became known as “Armistice Day.”

Armistice Day officially received its name in America in 1926 through a Congressional resolution. It became a national holiday in 1938 by similar Congressional action.

If the idealistic hope had been realized that World War I was “The War to end all wars,” November 11th might still be called Armistice Day. But shortly after the holiday was proclaimed, World War II broke out in Europe and shattered the dream. Sixteen and one-half million

Americans took part. Four hundred and six thousand died. The families and friends of these dead longed for a way to honor their memory.

An answer to the dilemma of how to pay tribute to those who had served in the latest, great war came in a proposal made by Representative Edwin K. Rees of Kansas: Change Armistice Day to Veterans Day, and make this an occasion to honor those who have served America in all wars.

President Eisenhower, in 1954, signed the bill proclaiming November 11 as Veterans Day, and he called for Americans everywhere to rededicate themselves to the cause of peace.

On May 30, 1958, two more unidentified American war dead were brought to Arlington Cemetery from overseas and interred in the plaza beside their comrade of World War I. One was killed in World War II, the other in Korea. A law passed in 1973 provided for the interment of an unknown American who lost his life in Southeast Asia during the Vietnam era. For several years no qualifying remains were discovered, so a memorial plaque was placed in the Amphitheater's Memorial Display Room. On Memorial Day 1984, however, the Unknown Serviceman from that conflict was placed “In Honored Glory” alongside his fellow countrymen.

However, due to the results of DNA testing in 1998, the Vietnam Unknown Soldier was identified. The remains were

disinterred from the grave site and returned to his family. It was decided that the grave of the Vietnam Unknown shall remain empty.

To honor these men, symbolic of all Americans who gave their lives in all wars, an Army Honor Guard, The 3rd United States Infantry (The Old Guard), keeps day and night vigil.

A law passed in 1968 changed the national commemoration of Veterans Day to the fourth Monday in October. It soon became apparent, however, that November 11 was a matter of historic and patriotic significance to a great many of our citizens. Congress therefore enacted legislation that returned the observance of this special day to its traditional date, beginning in 1978.

The significance of this day seems to have been lost in the hustle and bustle of life in these times, much in the way that Memorial Day has also been lost. And yet it is in these very trying times that we should really take the time to think of the true meaning of these holidays.

— Linda Thorpe

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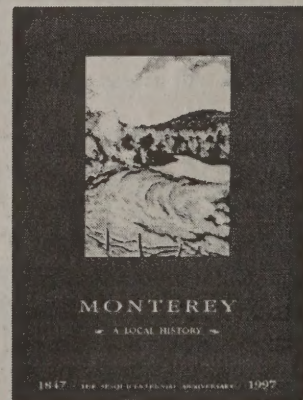
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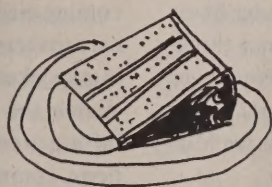
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Community Dinners Resume November 12

Music, art, and Berkshire history are only a few topics scheduled this year as local speakers and performers once again highlight the Monterey community dinners with their rich talents. Zed Pine will kick off the 2003-4 gatherings on Wednesday, November 12, with a performance of *A Piece of Advice*, adapted from a short story by Nobel Prize winner Isaac Bashevis Singer.

This story, written with gentle humor and timeless wisdom, is set in a Jewish community of rural Poland in the late nineteenth century. The "advice" of the title is given to an irascible middle-aged man, and it changes his life—a life that had been plagued with anger and a temperament that keeps him in a constant state of anguished remorse for his abrasive words and actions. Once, over an inconsequential matter, he slaps his young son-in-law Baruch in the face. Later, he apologizes and reluctantly takes Baruch's suggestion that they travel together to see the blessed Rabbi Chazkela of Kuzmir. When they arrive, the Rabbi's advice infuriates Baruch's father-in-law, but it changes his life forever.

Zed Pine is an actor and storyteller, now semiretired and living in Monterey. His past experience includes work with The Bigger Light Theater Company (in Europe and Great Britain), with Shakespeare & Company locally, and with regional theater companies in the Midwest.



Bidwell House Plans Fall "Candlelight" Fund-Raiser

The Bidwell House Museum Annual Fall Fund-Raiser will be held this year at Roberts Woods on Art School Road in Monterey. The "Candlelight Cocktail Party" is scheduled for Saturday evening, November 29, from 5-7 p.m. House tours will be given at the Museum from 4-5 for those who would like to visit prior to the party. A donation of \$35 is asked, and reservations can be made by calling the Museum at 413-528-6888. We hope to see you there!

Since 1999 his work has been focused on performing Wallace Shawn's *The Fever*.

Everyone is welcome to attend the Monterey Community Dinners, held in the Monterey Meetinghouse the second Wednesday of each month, November through June, 6:00-8:00 p.m. Please bring ample food to share (6-8 servings), a serving utensil, and your own plate and silverware.

Karl Finger will lead December's program of music, and in January MaryKate Jordan will talk about Edith Wharton in the Berkshires. Later in the season Leonard Weber will speak about his recent trip to Japan and Melissa Preston will present a program on llamas. Watch the *Monterey News* for program descriptions as they are scheduled, and call the Monterey Church (528-5850) for recorded cancellations and postponements.

Bidwell House Publishes 2004 Calendar

The Bidwell House Museum is pleased to announce the publication of *The Bidwell House Museum: In a Different Light*, a calendar portfolio for 2004. This beautifully designed calendar includes a unique set of images of the Bidwell House and Gardens by Monterey photographer Edith Ross. The photographs summon a quality of light that seems to transform what is familiar. Shadow becomes light, hard edges are softened, the ordinary becomes ordained with new meaning. It is quite extraordinary how lens and eye and light combine to create a body of work that both challenges and transports us. Ms. Ross's photographs clearly present the Bidwell House in a "different light." Robert Oakes's design for these photographs is eloquent in its simplicity. Beyond its function as a calendar, this is a portfolio of photographs that can be enjoyed long after 2004 is complete.

Copies may be ordered from the museum by calling 413-528-6888 or by e-mail at Bidwellhouse@verizon.net. The cost is \$10, and your purchase will help support the Museum and its programs.

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Barbara Bonner Named V. P. for External Relations at Bennington College

Barbara Bonner, a former Monterey resident and an active member of the Berkshire community, was recently appointed Vice President of External Relations for Bennington College in Bennington, Vermont, a nationally recognized, liberal arts college with an enrollment of 750 students (600 undergraduate, 150 graduate).

The position, which involves overseeing the college's development and communications departments, is tailor-made for Bonner, who has served as a Bennington College trustee for four years. In addition to her enthusiasm for and understanding of the college, she brings more than 25 years of experience in fund-raising and nonprofit management. She has worked as a curator, director, and fund-raiser for a variety of renowned cultural institutions in New York City, including the Museum of the City of New York, the Asia Society, and the Cathedral of St. John the Divine.

After maintaining a second home in the Berkshires for years, relocating to Monterey in 1999 seemed to Bonner a "natural evolution." As part of that natural evolution, she lent her expertise to the boards of several Berkshire organizations; she served as the chair of both the Development Committee and the Capital

Campaign Steering Committee for the Austen Riggs Center in Stockbridge and the Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center in Great Barrington.

Bonner described her new job as irresistible. "The college is at a particular moment in its life that was just too delicious to pass up," she said. Elizabeth Coleman, president of the college, noted, "I'm thrilled that Barbara is taking on this new role. Though we are losing a spectacular trustee, we are gaining an immensely gifted professional."

"I love beginnings," said Bonner, who established the first museum at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York City. In the late 1980s when Japanese fund-raising was taking off, she worked closely with Asian government representatives and corporations while curating exhibitions and raising funds for the Asia Society. The international thrust of that work was carried over to her next position, as Deputy Director for External Affairs for the Museum of the City of New York.

Asked what draws her to Bennington College, Bonner says simply and without hesitation: "My lifelong fascination with imagination and creativity. I'm really looking forward to being part of the day-to-day life at the College," she said. "Sitting in the audience at the recent faculty concert I simply couldn't believe my good fortune—being at this place I have loved for so long at this wonderful moment in its history."



Monterey Democratic Committee Notes

A lively meeting of the Monterey Democratic Town Committee, chaired by Charles Ferris, was held at the firehouse on Thursday, October 15.

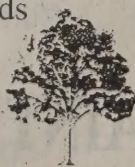
The group was enthusiastic about revitalizing the work of the Town Democratic Party. We look for an increase in awareness and activity. The participation of all Monterey Democrats as well as those who feel a connection to Monterey is important. Your support is very welcome, with both your presence and financial assistance needed. A donation, as small as a roll of stamps or your check in any amount, will help the committee in its work and improve our efforts and increase party momentum.

The committee is working on upcoming meetings, which will include topical speakers. We hope to have an interesting speaker for the December meeting. Watch the *Monterey News* for further information. Please send your suggestions, comments, donations, and your e-mail address, mailing address, and telephone number for contact purposes to the Monterey Democratic Committee, PO Box 221, Monterey, MA 01245.

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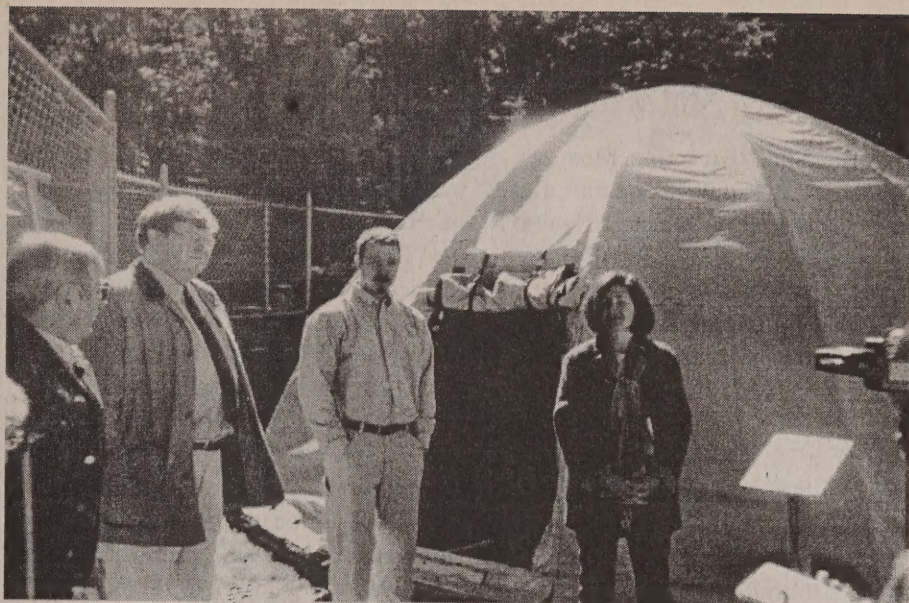
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At The Hatchery

State Environmental Affairs Secretary Ellen Roy Herzfelder and Kent Lage, Assistant Director of the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources, visited the Berkshire National Fish Hatchery on Friday, October 3, to meet with Keith Wilda, Executive Director. Not to be outdone with important dignitaries, Keith had invited Ken Bergstrom, founding director of the hatchery, as well as Scott Farrell, head of biology at Mt. Everett High School.

Keith, who is also Executive Director of the Western Massachusetts Center for Sustainable Aquaculture, gave a very educational tour of the facilities and expressed his concern that the state has not been forthcoming with a funding commitment beyond the end of this year, leaving hatchery programs with no future beyond that point. "We are already spread thin and cannot be spread thinner, so we are here or we are not here!"

Although the hatchery, with the help of local volunteers, also spread very thin, has a remarkable record of community support and involvement, the months ahead will be pivotal to continuing this educational, environmental, and experimental center for aquaculture in the Berkshires. The most immediate need is daily help to service fish-feeding requirements.



George Emmons

Keith Wilda (center), Director Of Berkshire Fish Hatchery on River/Hatchery Road, with Massachusetts Environmental Affairs Secretary Ellen Herzfelder and Kent Lage, Asst. Director of Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources.

Because of its location, its current rating as a Class 1 hatchery, and a burgeoning fingerling population, the hatchery is developing a prospectus for a Farm Pond Program as an adjunct of Aquaculture and Agriculture. There is a possibility of Berkshire Grown support if the fish can be sold for food, an 8 million dollar business in the state. The program is entirely possible, but Bergstrom asked Herzfelder to see about streamlining the

permitting process for fish growers such as farmers who have to pay a \$100 permit fee and fill out an immense amount of paperwork.

Very few farmers realize they can make their ponds into small hatcheries, for pleasure and profit, so the program will be breaking new ground. However, this alone would not be enough to make up the state underfunding on the horizon. On October 3, the state visitors were impressed with what they saw and heard, but is anyone in Boston listening to them?

— George Emmons

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New 2½-Mile Trail Being Created in Monterey

By sometime next spring, Monterey will have a new 2½ mile hiking trail. Tad Ames, President of the Berkshire Natural Resources Council, is working with Peter Jensen, "without peer as a trail designer and builder," to create the trail on the 243-acre "Gingras" property, one of Bob Thieriot's bequests to Monterey.

The trail, tentatively named the "Blue Heron Trail" because of the heron rookery in the wetlands, will start on Route 23 east of Hupi Road and west of Royal Pond, crossing an old causeway into the beautifully forested wetland at the inlet to Royal Pond. The trail then winds along a series of loops to several destinations: a summit, a high saddle, or along the remote open wetland that hosts the rookery.

The trail tread will accommodate hikers at varying levels of complexity—there will be steep stone steps, but also wide wood roads, suitable for cross-country skiing. "This isn't a trail just for the hardest. It's going to be easy to follow

and easy to walk. If you can ambulate, you'll be able to use the trail," says Ames.

"Our first priority is to have the public enjoy the trail," says Ames. "Other than clearing what's necessary for the trails themselves, timber management will be extremely conservative."

Thieriot had given a conservation restriction on the property to BNRC and the Monterey Preservation Land Trust, and then in 1998, on the day he died, he gave BNRC the underlying fee interest. "Had Bob lived, he would have kept the land and managed it so the public could use it," Ames says.

Conservation restrictions are legal agreements between the landowner and a conservation organization prohibiting all (or most) development on a property. Not only do permanent conservation gifts ban residential or commercial use, they put very strict limits on how the forestry is managed. "Let's call it 'gentle forestry,'" says Ames. The restrictions also generally prohibit stripping topsoil, digging gravel, or filling in wetlands.

Thieriot donated 2,500–3,000 acres to land trusts in Berkshire County. A great deal of the land is in Monterey, but towards the end of his life, he grew interested in the northern part of the county, where the land is less broken up and under less pressure from development than in the south.

The "Blue Heron Trail" will be the fifth formal trail initiated by BNRC. The other four are all along Yokum Ridge, which separates Lenox and Stockbridge from Richmond and West Stockbridge. Thus, the Monterey trail will be the first

one for BNRC in South County, and will increase BNRC trails to 12.5 miles. Ames believes the trail will be ready for hikers by Memorial Day, 2004.

Peter Jensen of Open Space Management has designed the other BNRC trails, and will do this one, too. "His trails are incredibly well done, very solid, designed to last," says Ames. Jensen avoids using machinery on his trails whenever possible. "He's put in place huge 1,000 pound stones for trail supports or bridges, and it's always done with muscles, levers, cables, and excellent craftsmen," Ames continues. The budget for the trail, which includes design work, cutting and clearing, installing drainage swales, stone steps for steep sections, causeway stabilization, and the like will be approximately \$32,000, which BNRC hopes to raise from the Monterey community.

The new trail already has one important donor, Janet Cathcart, whose husband, Dave, died on September 30, at their home in Pasadena, California. A number of the Cathcart's friends and neighbors in Monterey want to honor him here, and donations to the trail may be made in Dave's memory. Janet has initiated the memorial fund, and will be working with BNRC to site an appropriate remembrance.

The trail itself, though will be maintained out of BNRC's operating budget. "It's rare that trail maintenance is endowed," says Ames. "We have excellent volunteers who check up on the property, people who let us know if someone has sawed something off. We're very grateful for that kind of help."

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Founded in 1967 by George Wislocki, its longtime president, BNRC now owns 6,400 acres across Berkshire County, holds conservation restrictions on another 6,200 acres, and has helped local land trusts acquire thousands more. Current president Tad Ames estimates that with BNRC's land, the 25,000 acres held by private trusts, plus state forests, parks, fish, and game areas, approximately 140,000 acres in Berkshire County are protected. But, he cautions, "The goal is not the number of acres in preservation. The goal is to preserve the very best features of our landscape and maintain the integrity of our forests, farmlands, rivers, streams, and other natural systems."

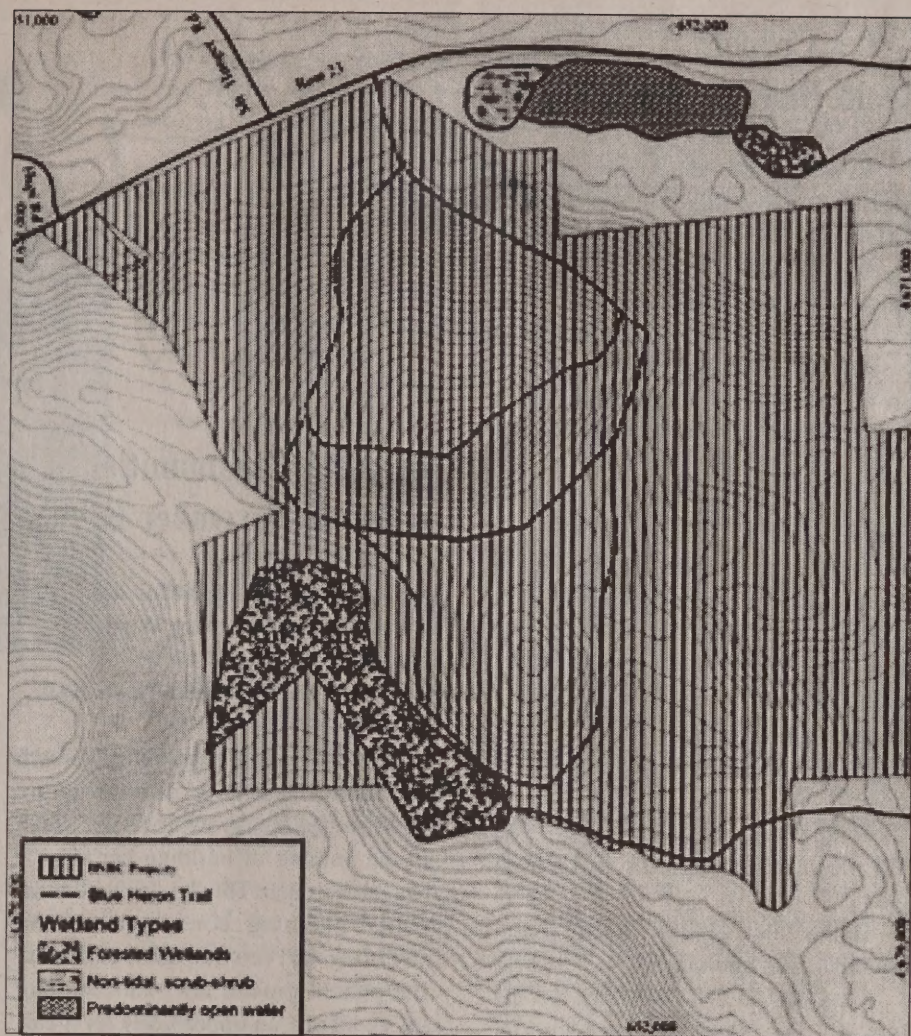
To those who have a hard time understanding how BNRC differs from the many local land trusts in the Berkshires, Ames says it is BNRC's full-time staff. With the exception of Sheffield and Williamstown, the other land trusts in Berkshire County, including Monterey, are run by volunteers. "We offer advice and services to local land trusts," says Ames. "The local land trusts have a capacity that we don't. They have deep local roots. They know what's up with local properties. We benefit from their local contacts, and we help them with regional and state assistance, such as attorneys and surveyors."

The Monterey Preservation Land Trust was formed in 1984, and has aided in the preservation of about 1,800 acres. It now owns 18 properties, received as gifts, and holds conservation restrictions on another 12 properties, plus three APRs (Agricultural Preservation Restrictions).

When you see activity at the Gingras property in the near future, you can be assured that this beautiful piece of land is being preserved, not developed, and will be enjoyed by the public for years to come. Thanks to all.

For further information, please contact Tad Ames at Berkshire Natural Resources Council, 20 Bank Street, Pittsfield, MA 01201; 413-499-0596, or check out their website at www.bnrc.net.

—Laurily Epstein



*Blue Heron Trail—Location Approximate
(courtesy Berkshire Natural Resources Council)*



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Green Corner: Avoid Holiday Waste

Estimates are that Americans produce an extra five million tons of waste in the five short weeks between Thanksgiving and New Year's Day. Much of this is holiday gift wrap. It has a short life on the gift, but lives on for a long time in the waste stream. Although recycling is usually the best option for used paper, wrapping paper and ribbons must be kept out of the recycling bin.


Try ReWrapping! You can wrap gifts creatively and inexpensively while reducing the environmental impact of your present. That's a way of giving a gift to the Earth, too. Here are some of our ideas—let us know some of yours.

- Outdated calendar pages and pictures
- Comics and magazines
- Old maps, posters and children's artwork
- Leftover wallpaper
- Fabric, towels, tablecloths, and pillow cases
- Wrap the tops of boxes for easy reuse
- Baskets, cups and mugs

Look for CET's "ReWrap for the Holiday" fact sheet on our website, www.cetonline.org under "For your home" or ask about our publications. Check out the Center for a New American Dream's website for information on simplifying your holiday season, www.newdream.org/holiday.

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Highland Communities Initiative November Events

**Is a Building Cap Right for our
Town? An Introductory Working
Session**

**November 12, Buckland Town Hall,
7–9 p.m.**

In order to keep the amount of growth predictable and steady, many towns are considering phased growth bylaws, which cap the number of building permits allowable each year. This session with community planning consultant Jeanne Armstrong will provide an overview of what phased growth laws and building caps entail and an opportunity for a balanced discussion regarding their benefits and drawbacks. Free and open to all.

**Geographic Informational Resources
on the Internet**

**November 17, Mohawk Regional
High School, Buckland, 7 p.m.**

Do you wish you could create GIS maps of your town without investing much time, effort, and money? There is a wealth of geographic information systems and other data sites on the Internet that do not require advanced mapping software or expertise. This free session with The Trustees of Reservations' GIS specialist will be a guided on-line tour of the more accessible and helpful sites, and will introduce participants to the process of creating personalized maps on the Internet. Space is limited, so please register in advance.

For more information or to register, contact Wendy Sweetser at (413) 587-0716 x14 or wsweetser@ttor.org.

"Healthy Arts" Series at Berkshire South

Berkshire United Way has given a \$2,000 venture grant to fund "Healthy Arts," a free performing arts and swimming program for families with young children and individuals with physical, mental, and/or emotional disabilities. This creative and socialization program is intended to foster community by integrating traditionally under-served populations with the community-at-large.

The five-part series is a collaborative effort of three non-profit organizations: Berkshire South Regional Community, Community Health Programs, and Community Access to the Arts.

The programs will take place on the first Saturday of each month from November 2003 through March 2004 at Berkshire South Regional Community Center in Great Barrington. The Center is centrally located, family friendly, and handicap accessible. The performing arts program will run from 10:30–11:30 a.m., followed by open swim from 11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. The program is free to the community. Space is limited and reservations are required. Children must be supervised. For reservations call Community Access to the Arts, 413-528-5845.

The program series schedule is as follows:

Saturday, November 8, 2003: Juggling, Jesting, and Other Foolery with Roger the Jester.

Saturday, December 6, 2003: Serenading with Vikki True.

Saturday, January 3, 2004: Story and Song with Joanne Spies.

Saturday, February 7, 2004: Puppetry with Michael Wolski.

Saturday, March 6, 2004: Dancing in Our Shoes with David Lane.

Transfer Station Winter Hours

Sunday 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

Wednesday 8 a.m.–1 p.m.

Saturday 8 a.m.–1 p.m.



Ted Webber (l) and Kip Beacco

Hunger Mountain Boys Hit the Big Time

The Berkshire bluegrass duo The Hunger Mountain Boys, AKA Kip Beacco and Ted Webber, gained national recognition last month when they sang the winning song in the Mountain Stage New Song Festival in West Virginia. "We kind of entered on a whim I guess," admitted Kip. "We were heading to the International Bluegrass Association World of Bluegrass trade show in Louisville, Kentucky, so we figured the festival would be a good filler for our trip down."

Kip's original song, "My Darlin' My Dear," a true story about losing a friend, earned a place in the top forty out of the 400 songs—either prerecorded or performed live—that were submitted for competition. But it was Ted's song "Nashville, Don't Touch My Country Music" that wowed the judges (song-writing and music industry professionals), who named Ted the grand champion based on "originality, lyrics, melody, composition, and delivery."

Besides a cash award, The Hunger Mountain Boys performed the song before a live Mountain Stage audience, a performance that is scheduled for international broadcast in November. Berkshire listeners can tune in to WAMC (90.3 or 105.1 FM) at 9:00 p.m. on November 24 for the show that includes the Del McCoury Band and Tim O'Brien. The song "Who Will Sing for Me," is sung as a finale by all the performers, including Kip and Ted, who were thrilled to be asked to join in.

The Hunger Mountain Boys have performed as a duo for less than a year, although they are longtime favorites in the area's bluegrass scene (Ted in Meri and the Big Iron Skillet, and Kip in the Beartown Mountain Ramblers), especially

here in Monterey where they have generously shared their talent for many community events. They are known for their traditional duet style that features beautiful vocal harmonies and instrumentals with Ted playing guitar and dobro and Kip playing mandolin, fiddle, and guitar.

As for the winning song, it has already become an often-requested number that strikes a chord with local audiences. Like all good songs, it comes right from the heart. As Kip explains it, "We were doing some recording one day at my house in Monterey, and had been talking about the overproduction and commercialization of country music and that 'Nashville sound' and how we really would rather listen to the old, ragged country music, like Hank Williams and Jimmie Rodgers and the older stuff like The Skillet Lickers and The Georgia Yellow Hammers—ya know, the real, honest, scratchy, bleedin' heart stuff. Anyway, I blurted out, 'Nashville, don't touch my country music!' and I think I said, 'Now, there's a song.' Ted says, 'I'm gonna write that one.' And he did."

Besides the November 24th broadcast, The Hunger Mountain Boys can often be heard at Club Helsinki, and they have a CD, *Fashioned in the Old Way*, that was recorded this year at Off the Beaten Track Records in Southfield. You can find it for sale on their website, www.hungermountainboys.com.

— Dianna Downing



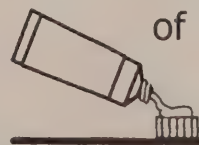
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Portugese Man-of-War

*The float appears a rainbow'd bubble at sea,
drifting dream-like without reason or rhyme.
It slumbers for silent intervals, contentedly
throughout the days of drowsy summertime.
Breasting the ocean, bluer than Juno's eyes,
the waves lift the bubble while the surf is growing.
Then a flash of lightning, an unwanted surprise
reveals Medusa-like tentacles, sea-flowing
and dangling down from the blue-purple float.
The long stingers can cause a deadly attraction.
The peaceful pacific has turned cut-throat.
Sea and wind are racked by frantic action,
hurtling on rocks the shrunken sac, near death
but still poisonous until its terminal breath.*

— Nancy Adams

Autumn Leaves

*An ending and beginning, both are marked
by their descent. A silent restless tide
that skims and swirls. A filigree that lurked
above, on all the trees except those dead.
With colors changed to match the growing chill,
fall scattershot upon the ground until*

*they're gathered up and carted off to rest.
Like parents who reach out with empty arms,
the once-full trees must face the frost
uncomforted, alone, on winter's terms.
Seemingly dead, and frozen now to earth,
the fallen leaves foresee the next rebirth.*

— Edwin Schur

At the Pub: Soliloquy of the Fallen Priest of Tralee

*So! So. So?
So, I am drunk
and I am going to the fire
and leaning over it
puttin' me face to the flame.*

*I feel the burning
of life wanting to live
and I feel the penance
of mockery —
and I ask, indeed, I do:
who would die for me
besides meself?
No one! Not today! Not anyone!*

*So! So. So?
So they must be canonizin'
a new saint, entirely
one that shouts and drools
or passes out
and prays withal —
I believe! I love! I'm here
cursed by me own existence!*

*So! So. So —
Ye should honour the mocker
for his despair
cos he will compromise
with necessity
and excel
and damn himself for doin' it
not seeing that Christ himself
went the hard way
finding the courage in losing
knowin' it the only way
in the end
to win.*

*So! So. So?
Now don't ye see that?*

— A. O. Howell

A New October

*We may drift a long way in the world
before knowing
truth . . .
that nothing
is spared
from the whimsy
of change.*

*I slumbered last night
on the dream
of laughter
when the warmth of certainty
poured applause
into our sleeping hands.*

*We all stood firm,
believing the earth might stop
its own
delirious spin —
embraced in the eternal summer
we forgot the inevitable
descent
of
leaves.*

Mayflies flutter on one resplendent day —

*Yet, when the oak and maple
gasp their last green breath
exhaling
hues of saffron & scarlet —
You still ask
why it hurts
to be born,
and if anything good
might last forever.*

*Can a question
remain courageous
in the face of its answer?
Even a knight
must remove his armor
to embark on love*

*When seasons
shake the roots
of complacency
slip back to the comedy
of Now.*

*Change is our redeemer,
there mystery
disrobes
on a sacramental sigh.*

— M. Hamilton

Good bye Autumn

*When all the leaves have fallen to the ground
We bid farewell to autumn's milder days
And look ahead to winter's cold and storm
And think of nature's rougher, wilder ways.
Our summer birds have gone to warmer clime,
And now the blue jays scream from maples tall.
The milkweed pods have burst; their seeds have flown,
And we say "Good-bye" to another Berkshire fall.*

— Eleanor Kimberley

Washington, DC, October 2003 — We are not tired!

It's true, the crowd was smaller this year, and quieter. The speeches were worse, and some of the signs and puppets looked a little ragged in places, as if someone had been in too much of a hurry getting them into the van for another long night's drive to DC. Seemed to me there was less jiving in the street, less of the "We can do this!" spirit than last year. This is where my comparison should probably end, but since I got home the first thing people have asked me has been, "How many? How big was the crowd? Was it like last year?"

I'll get to the numbers question first. I never made a good count this year, but I noticed on the highway that we did not see too many fellow travelers until we got pretty close to DC. That last road stop for "breakfast" is always a boost. There are lots of buses in the lot, plenty of peaceniks in the food joint. It's fun to see so many conscientious folks with their own coffee cups lined up at the dispensers, to experience such quiet commitment from all

those people who have just spent the night sitting up on a big bus. We are in the restrooms brushing and flossing, repacking our kits, getting ready for the big day. Will it be big? It already is. We've made the trip and we know that in another hour or so we'll be on the ground with thousands of Americans of all ages and colors, most of them back again in spite of the amazing indifference of the Bush Administration to the huge show of opposition to war last year.

How many? When we got to Union Station we took a long walk to the Capitol and were a little sorry to see only a few small knots of folks at 8:00 a.m., but it was still early. We headed west along one side and pretty soon saw a major flow of people across from us, an orderly line of about four abreast walking along the north sidewalk. Funny thing—they were headed east, away from the rally! Also they did not carry signs. But at least they were folks on the ground like us. They had dogs, some of them . . . and they were headed the wrong direction for the rally. Still, they gave us heart.

That long line of walkers on the north sidewalk perked us up, even when we realized they were part of a walk-a-thon to raise funds and awareness for people suffering from diabetes. I'm sure many of them had a long ride in the wee hours, and now they were on the Mall like us, for a cause that mattered to them. We were buddies on the ground, but it wouldn't be fair to add them to our numbers.

At the rally site, the gang on stage were warming up the rap songs and a smallish crowd gathered in front. We had

no trouble getting up close and could even sit down when our feet got tired without fear of being stepped on. This was unlike the experiences we had last year. Also the weather was just fine: no quagmire underfoot, no freezing wind along the park. The excitement of last year, when we actually thought that by showing up in huge numbers and raising a great cry we might be heard and a war prevented was missing this year. About 100,000 people were missing this year, too, but something else was present. There is a determination in the air, almost as if we gain strength from the enormity of our project and from our commitment to take it on. We want democracy, peace, justice, a fair deal for all Earth's citizens, a sharing of the abundance. We want the US out of Iraq and the UN in. We know these things are possible or we wouldn't be here, and seeing each other in person is so strengthening.

When people ask me about numbers I say I'd guess there were 80,000 to 100,000 in Washington on the march. There were never this many on the Mall, even if we counted the Diabetes Walk-a-Thons, but thousands of us never went to the speeches at all. From the very start there were hordes in the streets. We waited about two hours before giving up on the speeches and made for the streets ourselves, walking from the Washington Monument way north around the White House and then east on Pennsylvania Avenue to the Department of Justice and then back to the monument. As we walked we recognized some of the great old puppets from other marches, saw some

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new banners and new counter-demonstrators (whose message was about Jesus and the Bible, to put it politely).

The best song this year was a sobering one, "Masters of War," by Bob Dylan. We heard a slow, a capella rendition at the rally, the best thing that came from the stage, and later I saw a foot-weary couple sitting on the curb on Pennsylvania Avenue with a sign that had the first verse all written out:

*Come you masters of war
You that build all the guns
You that build the death planes
You that build the big bombs
You that hide behind walls,
You that hide behind desks,
I just want you to know I can see
through your masks.*

When I got home I looked up this song in a book called *Young Folk* that was given to me in 1964 for my fifteenth birthday. The war was Vietnam and Americans went to Washington again and again. I remember in those days I sat up in my room trying to work out the guitar tablature and get the harmonica to sit just right in its rack in front of my face. I was a young folk myself, and though I

went to Washington and we filled the Mall back then, I don't remember weeping.

This time, when the young folks came by with their Styrofoam cooler and offered us "free food," I just choked up. They had come a long way, like us, and they had all this cut up fresh fruit which they were dishing out to anyone who wanted it. "We ran out of cups so we are putting it in gloves," they said with a laugh. It was pretty silly; eating fruit out of clear rubber gloves while the juice ran down into the fingers. You were left blushing, holding a floppy thing that looked like you had been to some kind of orgy with mutants from outer space. Then there was the tired guy, flat out on his back with his sign propped up. It said "Broken Hearts for Peace" and had a drawing of a heart broken into two pieces. One side said "Cubs," the other said "Sox." I asked if I could take his picture and he said sure, as long as he didn't have to get up.

At the end of a long day I stayed up late talking to three women on my bus home. I learned about more events to come, about their own commitments to local and regional projects, about their readiness to go again to Washington, and again and again—as long as it takes.



Bonner McAllester

Last year we heard a message from the great antiwar activist Philip Berrigan, too sick with cancer to be present on stage. He said that above all we must not get tired. Now he has died and all of us Young Folk are a little older ourselves. But we are serving each other fruit in gloves, keeping our sense of humor, singing the old songs, and we are not tired.

— Bonner J. McAllester

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Mystery of Buried Tombstones Revealed

On November first, 1861, 18-year-old David Draucker left his family to join the 11th Regiment Iowa Volunteers. According to a contemporary account the regiment mustered near Davenport, a Mississippi River town on "a bright beautiful day of the waning Indian summer, which delightful season . . . sometimes delays its departure till winter itself comes on and the blasts of December blow in earnest." For Draucker and his 900 fellow soldiers in the 11th Iowa Infantry, winter weather was only their first hardship, foreshadowing some of the most horrific battles of the Civil War, including Shiloh and Vicksburg.

One hundred forty-two years later, my son Matt, while helping repair our patio, unearthed a stone border piece and found it to be an upended marble slab. Born and raised in Iowa, he was astounded to read "David Draucker CO. E, 11 IA INF" carved on what could only be an Iowan's grave marker of Civil War

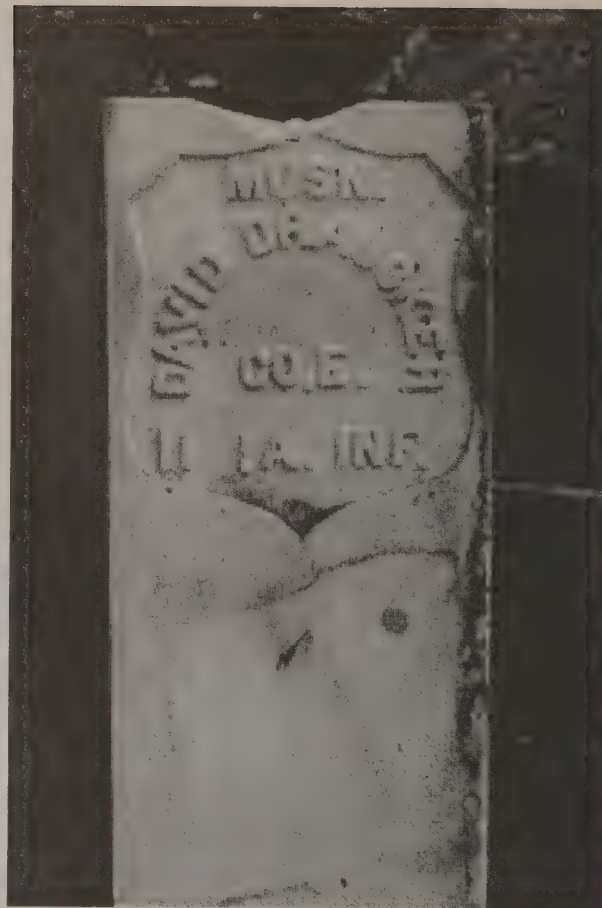
vintage. A devotee of old-time music, Matt was even more amazed to see "musn." inscribed on the stone, indicating the soldier's status as musician. More excavation revealed that the entire patio was lined with bits and pieces of headstones, some blank and some bearing the names of other soldiers—Edwin Ellis of Wisconsin, Gustave Spaette of Missouri, John Taylor of Illinois, Isaac Glover of Maryland, and Alford Barrows, a blacksmith, also from Iowa.

Clearly our twentieth-century house was not built over a cemetery, so we set out to decipher the origin of our macabre discovery. Research began on the web with a quick visit to the U.S. Department of Veteran's Affairs, where we learned that Congress appropriated \$1,000,000 in 1873 for creation of headstones like ours for the Civil War veterans buried in national cemeteries. These replaced wooden or iron ones, fashioned hastily to label the staggering number of graves required during the war. Leftover funds were designated in 1879 to create stones for veterans buried in private cemeteries as well.

This still didn't explain why the stones were in our patio, but back on the web we learned that a major government contract was issued to Lee Marble Works for production of Civil War headstones. Lee's pure white marble, as well as marble quarried in other Berkshire towns, was

considered the hardest and finest marble available, and the Housatonic Railroad, built in the early 1850s, provided the transportation that made it marketable. Lee Marble could boast that it quarried the stone for buildings throughout the country, including the nation's capitol, Grant's Tomb, the Empire State Building, the Washington Monument, and many historic buildings in Philadelphia.

I visited the Lee Library, itself built with Lee marble, where librarian Georgia Massucco (who loves a good research project) disappeared into the basement stacks, emerging triumphant with a small promotional pamphlet, chipped and foxed with age, titled "Lee Marble Works: Block



Diana Downing

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and Sawed Marble." Published in 1894, it described the headstone-making process, still going strong after 21 years: "In one room in the rear part of the mill building, overlooking the tracks and the hills are stacks of the white headstones which will mark the graves of soldier boys. Several men work in this room chipping out the names of the dead whose graves are to be marked."

In all probability these marble cutters occasionally made mistakes, relegating chipped, cracked, or misspelled stones to the reject pile—rubble to be used in later years, perhaps as construction fill, garden steps, or the decorative edge of a patio in nearby Monterey.

Still curious about the serendipity of the Iowa musician's stone found by another musical Iowan, I returned to the computer and explored the vast internet world of Civil War buffs. There I found a microcosm of generous souls anxious to help. One woman in particular—Becky Peterson, an Iowan living in Colorado whose grandfather served in the 11th Iowa Infantry—provided us with photocopies of long out-of-print accounts of the company and went the extra mile to help research David Draucker himself.

Our Mr. Draucker did not die in the war, she learned, but went on to marry Barbara Ellinger, father six children, and become a policeman. He died in 1918 at age 80 in York County, Nebraska, where presumably his grave, as befits his status as a veteran, is marked by a white marble stone whose mirror image can be found here in Monterey.

— Dianna Downing

My Visit with Alice O. Howell

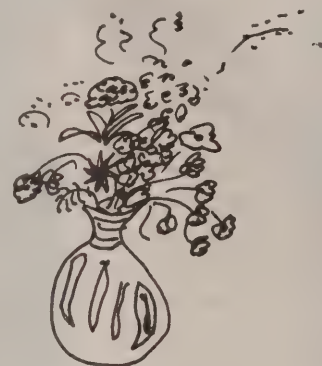
On October 19, 2003, I went to visit Alice O. Howell. We had tea and I read her a story I wrote. She lives in a big white house named Rosecroft in Monterey, the same town that I live in. She is the author of *The Beejum Book*, which was published in 2002. Ninety-five percent of *The Beejum Book* is true. Ms. Howell is going to write a sequel this winter. She wants people to read *The Beejum Book*, because she thinks that if a lot of people read chapter 22 called "Gumblegurk," there might be peace in the world. She has lots of books, and twenty percent of them are classics. Her favorite book is *The Story of Roland*, which is the same as my favorite book. She lent me a book called *The World's Great Stories, 55 Legends That Live Forever*, which she recommended.

The Beejum Book is my eighth favorite book out of hundreds that I have read. It tells all about Teak's life all the way from age six until she is a teenager. Teak does not live in a regular house; she travels all around the world with her parents and her governess. Every night Teak takes the train to Beejumstan, where she has amazing adventures and meets characters such as Lonesome, Mercy Muchmore, Gumblegurk, Dr. Syzygy, Dr. Aziboy Sobelow, Idy Fix, King Ching, Whitsworth, Gezeebius, Figg Newton, Rudintruda, Sobkin the Supersensitive, Dark Shee, and Sir Lovalot. My favorite part of the book is where Figg Newton

tells his story. Figg Newton is an alchemist with a long nose. He lives in a house that is bigger on the inside than it is on the outside. He has an amazing library with books all about language, math, physics, chemistry, geography, geology, zoology, botany, history, economics, political science, biography, sociology, anthropology, astronomy, engineering, medicine, philosophy, and religion. I really liked *The Beejum Book*. I would recommend it.

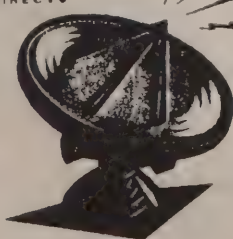
— Jonah Carlson

Jonah Carlson has been a resident of Monterey since his birth 9 years ago.



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Hunter's Moon and Indian Summer

A full hunter's moon arose over Chestnut Hill on October 10, and as the bright beams of reflected sunlight began to penetrate the dark boughs of the conifer canopy that cloaked the outline of the skyline, the shrill barks of a coyote were followed by others answering in a choral unison. When a coyote barks at the moon and others chime in, it is usually an adult that breaks the silence, followed by pups near the den that warm to the lunar salute. But "hunter's moon" is an Indian descriptive name given to the full phase of a celestial cycle that was a visual calendar of predictable seasons closely connected to their way of life.

Their hunter's moon in October was followed by the beaver moon in November, when the pelts were prime, and of course the golden pond weather around our lakes and ponds we ourselves glorify as Indian summer. Across Lake Garfield now, the rains of an unusually wet summer are already draining with the annual drawdown, and there is daily a deciduous fire reflected on the waters that go with the flow. Fish at the hatchery are spawning almost a month early, the humming birds left before we noticed, and the woolly bears are very prolific, shorter and fatter than usual, if you know what that means.

If we lived outdoors every day and sat around a campfire under the stars every night, observing the connection between events on Earth and in the heavens as the indigenous people did, the rhythms of the seasons and the signs for the coming winter would not appear in



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such fine print to our vision. Even today, the regional thickness of animal skins is computer programmed by fuel inventory analysts in preparation for what lies ahead, even if for primitive people it was written in the stars. Do you read your horoscope every day?

If we worry about hunters in tree stands with bows and arrows, this method of hunting has been around longer than you think, for Native Americans climbed trees and did the same. The deer season was vital for them, and colonial militia records indicate that Mahicans from Stockbridge who were fighting on our side in the Revolution asked leave from their duties so they could go forth for an extended period to take care of their families. They used almost the entire animal for food, the bones for utensils, the hides for clothing and trading to the settlers for flintlocks which improved their chances of success.

The days of Indian summer are numbered, and by the time you read this the hunter's moon will be replaced by the thin sliver of a new beaver moon, shaped in the darkness like a silver bow, as if to fire flaming arrows across the heavens, falling and flaming out until, like the autumn leaves, they fall past my window and are out of sight. It is for us the season of Thanksgiving and appreciation of a bountiful Earth.

— George Emmons

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Setting the Record Straight.

To the Editor:

The article titled "Managing Solid Waste" in the October 2003 issue stated some reasons for my resignation, but is not inclusive. This is not surprising, since the writer, Ms. K. Wasiuk, was not at the Select Board meeting in question. If she wanted to report the situation objectively, it would have been appreciated if she had spoken with me.

For the record:

At present, permits for disposal of large items at the dump are supposed to be obtained at the Town Hall. If a resident has not done so, the fee is collected by the solid waste attendant, who receives from the town, 10% of the fee collected.

Incidentally, I cannot find out where approval for awarding this commission to the attendant came from, or who authorized it.

Since the fee is the same, there is no incentive for the resident to go to the Town Hall for the sticker.

In order to regain the cost of the commission for the town, as Chairman of the Solid Waste Committee, I proposed to the Select Board a \$2.00 surcharge if a permit was obtained on site and not from the Town Hall. I left the meeting with the Board's approval, to be submitted to the Solid Waste Committee for approval.

After I left, Ms. Jurgenson, who is secretary to the Solid Waste Committee, took it upon herself to offer an objection to the proposal. This was done without any

Contributors

We are grateful to the following readers for recent contributions to the *Monterey News*.

Edith Green

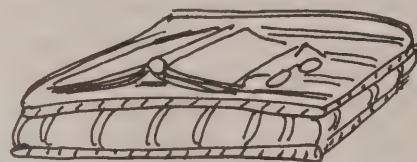
Donald Victor

Patricia Ryan

Lizabeth Sanchez & Rosanna Murray

William Brockman & Jack Jefferson

Erwin & May Clark



discussion with me, chairman of the committee. Incidentally, Ms. Jurgenson, as secretary, is not a voting committee member and, also, is not a resident of Monterey, so her comments cannot be considered as those of a concerned resident.

The Select Board took Ms. Jurgenson's objection over my proposal, and they then negated the proposal without my knowledge or notification.

Since the Select Board chose to not support or at least consult with the Committee Chairman that they appointed, I saw no reason to continue to serve in that position.

I suspect there may be further comment on this; however this is all I intend to say on the matter.

— Michael Feltser



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From the Meetinghouse . . .

A few weeks ago, Jesse and I had an inspiring conversation with Obie, our 2½-year-old Wheaten Terrier. We have known him for quite a while now, given that we adopted him when he was a 2-month-old ball of hair and teeth. But this was the first time we have ever had a conversation with him because previous to this there had seemed no pressing need. He was, after all, exactly what our Complete Pet Owner's Manual claimed a Wheaten should be—the Peter Pan dog of the terrier breeds, always looking for something new and exciting, always happy and jovial, and constantly delighting and frustrating his owners with his impish humor, inventive antics, and stubborn refusal ever to grow up. "Mischief," the manual concludes, "is the Wheaten's middle name."

But shortly before we spoke, he had begun to show signs of stress, worrying himself on his front paw and back hip until he had hot spots worn open. That was when we decided to contact Dawn, the pet communicator, who (just so you don't think I've gone too far off the deep end) several Montereyans had recommended to us if ever we were curious or concerned about what was on Obie's mind. Dawn speaks intuitively in silence via the telephone with your pet, asking of him or her whatever you like. When Jesse and I first got on the phone, each of us on a different extension, Obie was sleeping

on this one chair that he likes. And when Dawn, after explaining to us how this would work, fell silent as she spoke with Obie, Obie sat up, cocked his head, and stared across the room.

Jesse and I waited through the silence.

Dawn then told us that Obie had had this to say—that he's been feeling nervous lately about being separated from his people (probably due to the week when I was away in August, leaving him for the first time to spend his days alone);

that he often feels achy and bloated after eating, which is why he has never, like some dogs, been a lover of food; that he has sensitive skin and is especially aggravated by bug bits; and that if it weren't

for the worrying, "they wouldn't be calling you," he said to Dawn of Jesse and me, because, he concluded, "I'm very well-mannered. I'm a really good boy."

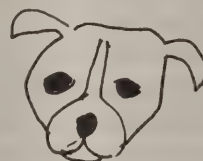
Dawn laughed at that. "He's cute," she said.

Now, any of you who have met Obie might well balk at his self-evaluation. If he has ever taken a running leap at you or jumped up to the height of your face to lick it while you were leaning down to say hello, or if ever you parted ways with him only to find wet paw-prints on your skirt or a smudge of dirt on your trousers,

or if ever you sat on our couch while he climbed up to sit behind you and to lick your ears from the inside out, or if you happen to be either our mailman or mailwoman, then you might well balk at his opinion of himself. Eileen Lawlor, for example, the owner of Teddy who is Obie's best friend, was a little surprised at this self-appraisal, saying, "Obie, very well-mannered?! Hmm." Likewise, my mother, for the first year of Obie's life, simply called him "No, no, bad dog" in order to save time. For our part, Jesse and

I often call him "Captain Naughty." So I guess I would be lying if I denied that there are certain things about Obie that could stand (and seem to defy) correction.

Nonetheless, I found myself inspired by this conversation, not because Obie is so thoroughly deluded about himself, but because he is aware of the fundamental truth about himself, that he is good, which is the fundamental truth about us all, that we are each good. Before anything else we have been declared very good. And it struck me that this would be a most blessed way to begin each day, with a reminder that I am good, that we are good, just as we are. For shame is as destructive a thing as I can imagine. Shame causes us to refuse to see our-



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selves, as seeing such a shameful thing would be too painful, so that we might never learn. Shame shields us from being corrected, as such correction would only confirm how awful we know ourselves to be, so that we might never grow. Shame is the underbelly of the outgrowth pride, which leads us ever to wonder as the disciples once wondered to Jesus, "Who is the greatest?"—hoping it's me but knowing it couldn't possibly be me, which is itself to believe this most pervasive lie that the enemy of God convinces us is true: that we should be ashamed of ourselves. Shame distracts us and misleads us from this truth, that we are all created in the image of God and therefore that we, while none of us is the greatest, are all fundamentally and ultimately good.

To feel unashamed, to know ourselves as good, and to act as best we can on this knowledge—this is salvation.

What a wonderful thing to find a teacher in a pet!

By the way, Obie's worrying turned out to be due to sore joints, symptomatic of Lyme disease. So, as a final word of advice, watch out for ticks. This is their busy season, and while they may be good in God's created order, they are not good for us or our dogs.

—Elizabeth Goodman

Imaginary Homeland at Sandisfield Arts Center

On November 8, Imaginary Homeland will bring its innovative new music to Sandisfield Arts Center. Lyrical melodies and percussive grooves meet in the music of Imaginary Homeland, a potent blend of African and American traditions. Proverb-speaking talking drums and rural folk songs join African fiddle and xylophone in innovative world music by musicians steeped in both traditions.

Composer David Rogers weaves together fiddle music from Africa and Appalachia with African xylophones, talking drums, and American jazz. The band has collaborated with leading African (Bernard Woma) and jazz artists (Regina Carter). Rogers (saxophones, talking drum) and percussionist Mark Stone (African drum set, xylophone) have spent years studying and performing traditional music with leading artists in Ghana and Uganda. Marlene Rice (violin) and Matt Pavolka (acoustic bass) are leading string players in New York's creative new music scene.

Tickets for the 8 p.m. concert are \$15. For more information call 413-258-4904. The Sandisfield Arts Center is located on Hammertown Road at Route 57 in Sandisfield.

Remembering Clement K. Winters

Clement K. "Clem" Winters, 75, of Fairview Road died October 8 at home.

Born in Pittsfield on July 6, 1928, son of William E. and Sarah Savage Winters, he attended the former St. Charles' School.

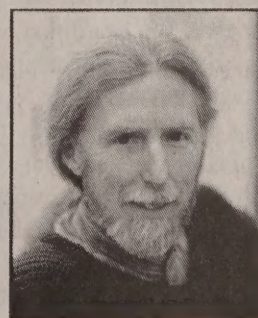
An army veteran of the Korean War, he served from 1950 to 1952 as a communications specialist.

Mr. Winters was employed as a foreman by the Massachusetts Highway Department for more than 20 years.

He was an avid Red Sox fan and a member of the Tyler Sportsmen's Association.

He leaves three sons, Clement "Butch" Winters Jr. of Pittsfield, Patrick Winters of Spring Hill, Florida, and Sean Winters of Las Vegas; two daughters, Marsha Jamieson, with whom he made his home, and Candace Burke of Pittsfield; and 17 grandchildren. He also leaves his former wife, Betty Lou Winters, whom he had married Sept. 29, 1956. Another son, William T. Winters Sr., died in 1985.

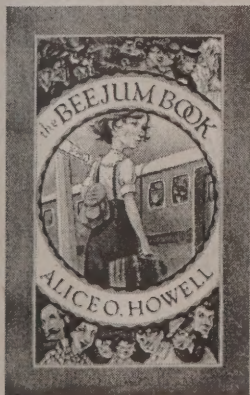
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Praise for Alice O. Howell's new book

This delicious, exhilarating marvel of a book has a pace, wit, and spiritual depth that will enchant children, galvanize adults to rediscover the wonder and creativity of their childhood selves, and ensure a wide readership. *The Beejum Book* will take its place with *The Little Princess* and *Charlotte's Web* as a perennial classic.

— Andrew Harvey, author of *The Direct Path*

Read this book to yourself or read it aloud to a young child, and delight in the hidden ironies of language and the pearls of wisdom you trip over when you least expect them. As *Alice in Wonderland* magically mirrored the Victorian world, so *The Beejum Book* mirrors ours.

— Marion Woodman, author of *Addiction to Perfection*

Gutsy humor, outlandish language, serious tomfoolery.

— Thomas Moore, author of *Care of the Soul*

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Remembering David Arthur Cathcart, 1940–2003

David Arthur Cathcart, age 63, died at his home in Pasadena California on September 30 from cancer, and Monterey, his part-time residence, lost a newly found but loyal friend! Three years ago, David and his wife, Janet, purchased an old weekend and vacation residence sadly in need of fixing up. The property at 630 Main Road, about a mile and a quarter east of the General Store, on the hill overlooking the hair-pin turn in the road at Keyes Corner, had a spectacular panoramic vista of Lake Garfield. They put their heart and soul into relandscaping the entrance as well as restructuring the house and garage-office outbuilding. With a view like that, little wonder that they would become active members in the Lake Garfield Association, and Janet a driving force behind establishment of LakeFest. Like a phoenix rising out of the ashes, their vision to restore the place to its original summer elegance came to fruition.

If it is true that “it is the people that make the place,” Dave Cathcart will be remembered by both the people and the place for his public service and introspective manner. We heard that he had been diagnosed with life-threatening cancer a year ago, but he never let it be known in his demeanor or participation in support of activities and local causes.

Dave was a nationally prominent attorney and a senior partner of a prestigious law firm, Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher, and held leadership positions with the American Bar Association. He was a senior editor of *The California Employment Litigation Practice Guide*, as well as editor-in-chief of *The Five Year Cumulative Supplement to Employment Discrimination Law*, yet with everything he had written and had to read, he told me he found great literary pleasure in reading the *Monterey News*, which he saved for his flights from coast to coast, connecting his life here to there. He also had served as Chief Legislative Assistant to Senator

Glynis Oliver



John V. Tunney and was instrumental in drafting and passing the Water Quality Act that for the past 30 years has brought high standards of fishing and swimming to many of the nation's waterways. It follows that when asked one morning in the meetinghouse basement while having coffee with his friends if he had an interest in becoming a member of the Berkshire Hatchery Board of Directors, he accepted. Although he was not licensed to practice in Massachusetts, he brought to the table his wisdom and experience, conveyed with carefully measured thoughts and words and delivered with a friendly look of understanding in his eyes.

During his last days here, he found

time to go fishing with my grandsons from the small dock on their Lake Garfield access lot on Bidwell Road, and take a country walk with Dick Tryon and me looking for Indian burial cairns. So it was with Dave, who had a truly remarkable presence of mind and inner peace in the most trying of life's tumultuous challenges.

David is survived by his wife, Janet Farley Cathcart; daughters Sarah and Rebecca; brothers Pat and Mike; thirteen nieces and nephews; and his uncle, Robert S. Cathcart. And each of us who knew him feel a sense of loss but celebrate the memory of his life and of his time with us in Monterey.

— George Emmons

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Calendar

Every Monday (exc. holidays): Select Board meeting, 8:30 a.m.—noon, Town Offices.

Tuesday, November 4: Election day.

Saturday, November 8:

Concert to benefit Land Trust, 7 p.m., Monterey Meetinghouse. Admission \$10, Students \$5. Call 528-3128 for info. See ad p.5.

Concert at Sandisfield Arts Center. Features "Imaginary Homeland", 8 p.m. Tickets \$15. Call 413-258-4904 for info. See p. 21

Sunday, November 9: Full moon.

Tuesday, November 11: Veterans Day.

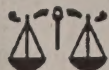
Wednesday, November 12: Community Dinner is back for the season, 6 p.m. in Meetinghouse basement. Zed Pine performs. All welcome. See p. 5.

Thursday, November 13: Free blood pressure clinic, 2:30–3:30 p.m., Town Offices, administered by Visiting Nurses Assoc.

Monday, November 17: All Boards meeting tentatively scheduled this date at 6:30 p.m. Call Town Offices 528-1443 to confirm. See p. 3.

CHARLES J. FERRIS

Attorney at Law



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Saturday, November 22: Square and contra dancing, 8:30–11:30 p.m., Sheffield Grange, Rt. 7, Sheffield. Music by Mountain Laurel, calling by Peter Stix. All dances are taught, beginners and children are welcome. Adults \$6, children \$3. Information 528-9385.

Thursday, November 27: Thanksgiving Day.

Saturday, November 29: Bidwell House Candlelight fundraiser, 5-7 p.m. Donation \$35. Reservations at 413-528-6888. See p. 5.

The Observer

September 26–October 25

High temp. (10/10) 73°
Low temp. (10/25) 24°
Avg. high temp. 55.9°
Avg. low temp. 37.3°
Avg. temp. 46.6°
Total precipitation
(rain and melted snow) 4.93"
Snowfall 2"
Season total snowfall 2"
Precipitation occurred on 18 days.

Town of Monterey

Regular Meeting Schedules of Town Boards

(Meetings are monthly and at Town Offices unless otherwise noted.)

Appeals, Board of (Peter Murkett, Chair) — As required

Assessors, Board of — To be announced

Cemetery Committee (Linda Thorpe, Chair) — Bimonthly (starting January), 1st Thursday, 7 p.m.

Conservation Commission (Chris Blair, Chair) — 2nd Monday, 6 p.m.

Health, Board of (Robert Lazzarini, Chair) — 1st & 3rd Fridays, 3:30 p.m.

Library Trustees (Will Marsh, Chair) — 2nd Monday (exc. July, August, December), 7 p.m., Library

Park Commission (Leroy Thorpe, Chair) — 1st Monday, 9 a.m.

Planning Board (Gerry Shapiro, Chair) — 2nd & 4th Thursdays, 7 p.m.

School District Committee (Rick Mielke, Monterey representative) — Alternate Thursdays, 7:30 p.m., Mt. Everett Reg. School, Sheffield

Select Board (Peter Brown, Chair) — Mondays (exc. legal holidays), 8:30 a.m.; evenings by appt.

Regular Office Hours

(Town Offices telephone: 413-528-1443)

Assessors' Clerk (Patricia Amstead) — To be announced

Tax Collector (Henry Makuc; Asst., Mari Enoch) — Mondays, 7–9 p.m., home office (413-644-0299)

Town Clerk (Barbara Swann; Asst., Linda Thorpe) — Saturdays, 9:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m., Town Offices

Town Offices (Bonnie Jurgenson, Administrative Asst.) — Monday through Friday, 9 a.m.–3:30 p.m.

Transfer Station Hours

Summer (Daylight Savings)

Sunday: 10 a.m.–6 p.m.

Wednesday: 8 a.m.–1 p.m.

Saturday: 8 a.m.–1 p.m.

Winter

Sunday: 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

Wednesday: 8 a.m.–1 p.m.

Saturday: 8 a.m.–1 p.m.

Library Hours

Monday: 7–9 p.m.

Tuesday: 9:30 a.m.–noon

Wednesday: 3–5 p.m.

Saturday: 9:30 a.m.–noon & 7–9 p.m.



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Asst. Editor Glynis Oliver
Reporters K. Wasiuk
..... George Emmons
Mailing Labels Joe Baker
Business Manager Barbara Tryon
Treasurer Mari Enoch

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Contributions from local artists this month:

Pat Arnow, pp. 5, 6, 10, 17, 19, 20;

Maureen Banner, p. 3; George Emmons, p. 18.

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